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CIA Shakeup Expected Under Lodge in Saigon

Senior Intelligence Chief Being Recalled For 'Consultations'; Other Changes Due

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By the Associated Press

The United States intelligence chief in South Viet Nam, John H. Richardson, and some other senior American officials at Saigon probably will be re-called in a shakeup of personnel under Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge.

Reporting this today, informed sources said Mr. Richardson is being brought back to Washington "for consultation," but Mr. Lodge has asked for a permanent replacement.

The others who may be replaced in the diplomatic-military trouble spot were not named. It was said that Mr. Lodge, who took over as ambassador in late August, feels that changes are needed for a more effective performance in the prevailing circumstances.

One major difficulty has been dealing with the authoritarian regime of President Ngo Dinh Diem. At one point, Washington hoped Mr. Diem would get rid of his influential brother, Ngo Dinh Nhu, who is regarded as a powerful advocate of tough tactics against the regime's Buddhist opponents.

With Washington trying but failing to get Mr. Nhu out of the place or to change his policies, it was felt here that United States officials in Saigon who had worked closely with Mr. Nhu are now in a position of decreased influence.

Also, there have been reports of conflict among CIA men in South Viet Nam over whether there should be changes in the Saigon government.

Mr. Richardson's job is said to have required him to work closely with Mr. Nhu, head of the South Viet Namese special forces and secret police.

Mr. Richardson is not publicly listed as CIA chief in Saigon. Intelligence personnel abroad

normally operate under some other designation.

The official roster lists John H. Richardson as a first secretary and a special assistant to the ambassador, assigned to Saigon on April 29, 1962.

The State Department's biographical register says Mr. Richardson was born of American parents in Burma in 1913, was educated in California, served in the Army during World War II and entered foreign service work in 1947 with assignments in Vienna, Athens and Manila before going to Saigon.

Mr. Richardson's recall comes only three days after Secretary of Defense McNamara and Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, completed an inspection trip in Viet Nam and reported to President Kennedy.

Their report led to administration forecasts that the war against the Communist Viet Cong guerrillas will be substantially won by December of 1965 and that most United States forces can then be withdrawn.